



Summer Trail Access and Condition Update October 14th – October 28th, 2020

Summer Trail Highlights

- TRAIL AND AREA CLOSURES are in effect due to wildfires. These are associated with the Green Ridge Fire and Lionshead Fire, which is in the Mt Jefferson Wilderness. See inside for more details.
- Starting October 19th, there will be a temporary closure on the Tumalo Creek trail, due to bridge construction.
- Recent wind storms have brought down trees on many area trails. Visitors should anticipate them on the trail, as removal efforts will be limited. The reports below represent the best of our knowledge at the time it was written.
- Fire danger remains HIGH. Campfires are allowed ONLY inside a fire ring in a designated campground. Never leave any fire unattended.
- Day use fees are now required at most developed recreation sites. Follow posted instructions. Until further notice, no Wilderness permits are required. Twelve person group limit inside Wilderness.
- Dog leash requirement for most sections of Deschutes River Trail in effect on September 15th.
- Motorized bicycles (E-Bikes) are not allowed on non-motorized trails.
- When on the trail, please treat fellow trail users with courtesy.



Recent photo of a volunteer removing windfall on the Mirror Lakes Trail, Three Sisters Wilderness. Many trails still have moderate to heavy downfall on them.



FS Trail Crew members building rock retaining wall around Shooting Star shelter. Work has culminated on two winter shelters that included roof and stove pipe replacement.

DESCHUTES NATIONAL FOREST SUMMER TRAIL CONDITIONS AS OF 10/14/20:

****Conditions subject to change without notice and at whim of nature.****

Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District

- ❖ **Phil's Area Trails** – All trails are clear and riding well.
E-Bikes are NOT allowed on any non-motorized trails.
For more information on COTA, go to: <http://cotamtb.com/>
- ❖ **Tumalo Falls Area** – Road to trailhead open for summer season. North Fork is clear. Possible downfall on Mrazek and Farewell. Bridge Creek is clear. Swampy Lakes unknown, likely light downfall.

TEMPORARY closure starting October 19th on Tumalo Creek Trail #25.1, due to bridge construction. Riders can detour around the closure by using Forest Road 4603 (road to Tumalo Falls). Please respect the closure for your own safety and so Trail Volunteers can efficiently complete their work. A new and better bridge will be in soon!

Stock, dogs, bikes and camping are all prohibited inside the Bend Municipal Watershed.

Due to very limited parking and high use, there is a 27' vehicle length limit at Tumalo Falls TH. Even then, the parking area fills early and can often remain at overflow capacity on busy days. Please pay close attention to "NO PARKING" signs on one side of the entrance road. These sections of roadway must remain open to avoid traffic hazards and permit larger emergency vehicle access.

- ❖ **Deschutes River Trail** – Snow free and clear from Meadow to Benham. Blowdowns reported upriver from Benham East. See the NEW ACCESSIBLE TRAIL near Dillon Falls, along the Ryan Ranch slough!
- ❖ **Sun Lava Paved Path** between Sunriver, Benham East and Lava Lands (Trailhead access points at south end of Lava Lands parking lot, Benham East or Circle 7 in Sunriver). Snow free and clear. Heavy use on weekends.
- ❖ **Lava Lands Trails** - Open for the season.
- ❖ **Sunriver Area Trails** – Snow free and clear. Afternoon Delight Trail still under construction.
- ❖ **Tumalo Creek 2 Trail** – Unknown. Possible blowdown. Hiker only.
- ❖ **Wanoga Area** – All trails snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Swampy Lakes** – Most trails snow free and clear, with some light blowdown.
- ❖ **Todd Lake** – Snow free with light blowdown. To protect fragile meadow, please stay on system trail and walk single file.



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- ❖ **Tumalo Mountain** – Light downfall and snow free. To protect fragile meadow, please stay on system trail and walk single file.
- ❖ **Broken Top** – Snow free and clear. To protect fragile meadow, please stay on system trail and walk single file.
- ❖ **Metolius Windigo - Todd Creek Horse Camp** – Snow free. Possible light downfall. Moderate downfall heading south toward Lava Lake.
- ❖ **Ray Atkeson Trailhead and Sparks Lake** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Green Lakes/Soda Creek** – On Green Lakes Trail, snow free and clear. For Soda Creek, snow free with 1 log down.
- ❖ **Devil's Lake/South Sister** – South Sister's Climber Trail mostly snow free. Elk-Devil's trail clear. Wickiup Plains trail clear.
- ❖ **Quinn Meadow Horse Camp area trails** – Quinn Creek trail snow free and clear from campground to Devil's Lake TH. Sink Creek trail is clear. Elk-Devils trail is clear from the junction with Sisters Mirror junction to the junction with Horse Lake Trail.
- ❖ **Moraine Lake** – Snow free and clear. To protect fragile meadow, please stay on system trail and walk single file.
- ❖ **Mirror Lakes** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Horse Lake** – Snow free and cleared as far as PCT.
- ❖ **Elk Lake** – Snow free with unknown blowdown. NEED NEW REPORT.
- ❖ **Six Lakes** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Lucky Lake/Senoj** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Corral Swamp** – Unknown. Likely light to moderate blowdown.
- ❖ **Cultus Lk and Winopee** – Snow free with light blowdown. Non-Wilderness section of Winopee Lake trail (going around Cultus Lake) clear. Going into Wilderness, trail clear as far as Muskrat Lake. Unknown downfall beyond that point. Stock not recommended.
- ❖ **Many Lakes** – Light blowdown on first mile going into Three Sisters Wilderness. Unknown conditions beyond.
- ❖ **Charlton/Lemish Lake** – All trails in area now OPEN. Possible light downfall.
- ❖ **PCT** – Snow free with light to moderate blowdown.
- ❖ **Osprey Point** – Snow free and clear.



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- ❖ **Fall River Trail** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **South/North Twin Lakes** – Unknown.
- ❖ **Horse Butte to Swamp Wells area trails** – All trails snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Newberry Caldera Trails** – Trails on Caldera floor snow free and clear. Paulina Lake Loop and Little Crater are clear. Crater Rim snow free with light blowdown.
- ❖ **Peter Skene Ogden Trail** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Lava Cast Forest Trailhead** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Hoffman Island Trailhead** – Snow free and clear.

Sisters Ranger District:

- ❖ **Black Butte Trail** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Green Ridge Trail** – CLOSED due to suppression impacts due to Green Ridge Fire.
- ❖ **Metolius River Trails** – Open and clear.
- ❖ **Suttle Lake Trail** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Lake Creek Trail** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Whychus Creek** – Snow free. Trailhead (6 vehicle capacity) temporarily closed through late October for maintenance. Temporary alternate route is in place. **Please, stay on the main designated trail and avoid using posted and closed social trails in restoration sections.**
- ❖ **Whychus Overlook Trail** (barrier free, closed to stock and bikes) –Trailhead and trail are in good condition. Please stay on designated trails.
- ❖ **Peterson Ridge Trails** – Snow free and clear. Be sure to check out the NEW TRAILHEAD OFF FOREST ROAD 16!
- ❖ **Metolius Windigo** – Snow free with possible light to moderate blowdown.
- ❖ **Tam Rim/Three Creeks Area** – Snow free. Moderate blowdown on East Fork and Park Meadow Tie Trails.
- ❖ **PCT** – Snow free with light to moderate blowdown. CLOSED from the junction with Old Summit Trail (just west of Minto Lake) to the north end of the Forest.
- ❖ **Scott Pass/Millican Crater** – Both trails, plus Trout Creek Tie, are snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Black Crater** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Chush Falls** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Pole Creek/Green Lakes/Park Meadow/Camp Lake/DeMaris Lake** – Pole Creek Trail cleared. Green Lakes cleared from junction with Scott Pass to South Fork of Whychus; heavy blowdown on Green Lakes from South Fork to Park Meadow. Park Meadow Trail clear from TH to Jct w/ Green Lakes. DeMaris Lake snow free and clear. Camp Lake snow free and clear.



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- ❖ **Head of Jack Creek** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Jefferson Lake** – CLOSED due to Lionshead Fire.
- ❖ **Cabot Lake** – CLOSED due to Lionshead Fire.
- ❖ **Rockpile Lake** – CLOSED due to Lionshead Fire.
- ❖ **Jack Lake TH** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Round Lake** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **MINTO LAKE, BRUSH CREEK AND SUGAR PINE RIDGE TRAILS ARE ALL IMPASSIBLE DUE TO BRUSH, HEAVY DOWNFALL AND EROSION.**

Crescent Ranger District:

- ❖ **PCT** – Snow free with possible light blowdown.
- ❖ **Oldenberg** – Light blowdown reported.
- ❖ **Summit Lake** - Unknown.
- ❖ **Meek Lake** - Unknown.
- ❖ **Windy Lakes** - Unknown.
- ❖ **Whitefish Horse Camp/Whitefish Creek/Met-Win** – Whitefish Creek trail clear from horse camp to Trapper Creek TH. Met-Win reported as clear.
- ❖ **Pretty Lake/Fawn Lake** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Maiden Lake and Peak** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Pengra Pass TH** - Unknown.
- ❖ **Yoran Lake** – Moderate downfall. **TRAPPER CREEK BRIDGE CLOSED FOR REPAIRS.** There is a reroute in place 100 ft. downstream from bridge. Trail users will have to ford creek. The bridge will be closed until repairs can be made.

OCTOBER SPECIAL TRAIL EVENTS:

None that I am aware of. Most events have been cancelled.

SEASONAL ROAD CLOSURES/OPENINGS:

Hwy 46	OPEN for summer season.
FR 370	OPEN for summer season.
Tumalo Falls Road	OPEN for summer season.



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FR 21	OPEN for summer season.
Hwy 242	CLOSED from McKenzie Pass to the west, due to fire.
FR 16	OPEN for winter season.
FR 60	OPEN for summer season.

“LEAVE NO TRACE” REMINDER:

PLEASE, PRACTICE THE SEVEN LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPALS:

Plan Ahead and Prepare

Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

Dispose of Waste Properly

Leave What You Find

Minimize Campfire Impacts

Respect Wildlife

Be Considerate of Other Visitors

For details on the 7 LNT Principals: <http://lnt.org/learn/7-principles>

TEN ESSENTIAL SYSTEMS:

For details on the “Ten Essential **Systems**”:

http://www.rei.com/expertadvice/articles/ten+essentials.html?s_kwcid=TC|13029|ten%20essentials||S|p|7499840765&cm_mmc=ps_google_CH-_-Category%20-%20Camp%2fHike-_-Camping%2fHiking_GeneralTerms_Essentials-_-ten%20essentials&gclid=CNq_h8Xbsq4CFQN8hwodYhH-PQ

For further information on Deschutes National Forest winter or summer trails, please call:

Deschutes National Forest Headquarters: (541) 383-5300

Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District: (541) 383-4000

Sisters Ranger District: (541) 549-7700

Crescent Ranger District: (541) 433-3200

Find this weekly trail access and condition report in the Deschutes National Forest Website at:

http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5299503.pdf



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Other trail access and conditions information can be found at:

<https://bendtrails.org/>

Central Oregon Off Hwy Vehicle Program:

http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5340950.pdf

Prineville BLM: <https://www.blm.gov/tag/prineville-district-office>